

Message Text

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SUBJ: INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS -- PERU AND NEIGHBORS
STRESS COOPERATION

SUMMARY

CHILEAN-PERUVIAN MIXED COMMISSION FOR COOPERATION MET IN LIMA APRIL 14-15. PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE MET WITH ECUADOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER JORGE SALVADOR LARA AT LIMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. MEMBER OF THE GOC JUNTA, ADMIRAL JOSE TORIBIO MEDIAN, ARRIVED IN LIMA FOR A SIX-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT. ALL EVENTS MEANT TO DEMONSTRATE A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG NEIGHBORS. END SUMMARY.

1. AS PART OF THE ONGOING EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH CHILE, PERU HOSTED THE FIRST SESSION OF THE PERU-CHILE MIXED COMMISSION FOR COOPERATION IN LIMA. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS INDICATED THAT THE COMMISSION DEALT PRIMARILY WITH DRAWING UP THE PROCEDURES AND AGENDA FOR FUTURE SESSIONS, WHICH WILL DEAL WITH BILATERAL COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS. THE DELEGATES ALSO DISCUSSED THE CREATION OF BILATERAL CHAMBERS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMERCE, THE PREVENTION OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF SEALS AND CERTIFICATIONS ISSUED BY BOTH COUNTRIES. FINALLY, THE MIXED COMMISSION DEALT WITH FINANCIAL TOPICS, PARTICULARLY LINES OF CREDIT AND MUTUAL PAYMENTS AGREEMENTS BETWEEN CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN BANKS. IT AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN SANTIAGO BETWEEN OCTOBER AND DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

2. ON THE PERU-ECUADOR FRONT, THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE EL PERUANO OF APRIL 18 REPORTED IN A COMMUNIQUE THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AT THE LIMA AIRPORT. THE MESSAGE SAYS THEY EXAMINED MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, PARTICULARLY THOSE DERIVED FROM THEIR COMMON BOUNDARY, AND THEY REITERATED THEIR RESOLVE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. ANOTHER MANIFESTATION OF THE GOP'S HIGH-LEVEL VISITOR EXCHANGES PROGRAM WAS THE APRIL 18 ARRIVAL OF ADMIRAL JOSE TORIBIO MEDINA CASTRO, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE CHILEAN NAVY AND A MEMBER OF THE GOC RULING JUNTA. ADMIRAL MERINO IS THE GUEST OF PERUVIAN NAVY MINISTER ADMIRAL JORGE PARODI AND HIS VISIT IS BILLED AS RECIPROCATION FOR AN EARLIER VISIT TO CHILE BY ADMIRAL PARODI. ADMIRAL MERINO WILL MEET WITH PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ AND OTHER MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS.

3. COMMENT: PERU AND ITS NEIGHBORS HAVE MADE SERIOUS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY SINCE DECEMBER. HIGH LEVEL MILITARY EXCHANGES LIKE THE MERINO VISIT COULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERU AND HER NEIGHBORS TO DISCUSS ARMS PURCHASES AND MUTUAL RESTRAINT. IN HIS CLOSING STATEMENT CHILEAN HEAD DELEGATE ENRIQUE VALDEZ, FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER-SECRETARY, COMMENTED ON THE ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WHICH PREVAILED IN THE WORKING SESSIONS BUT SAID THAT HE FORESEES A LONG ROAD YET TO FOLLOW.

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